



ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING (EPP)

Providing Buyers, Catalogers and Item Specialists

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The Information Busy People Need to Keep Current

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Energy Efficiency New Recommendations

A description of the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) 5 product recommendations for commercial food service equipment.

Biobased Products

New database for products made from corn; and biobased products showcase in Washington DC for Earth Day.

Next Joint Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Joint Group on Environmental Attributes is scheduled to meet on May 14.

Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG)

EPA has announced its final rule for CPG IV will not be published in the Federal Register until sometime in May. It was originally slated for publication by the end of calendar year 2002, then delayed until the end of March. No changes from the list of product categories originally published in August 2001 are anticipated. For a list of the 11 product categories affected, see the original Federal Register notice on EPA's CPG IV website at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/rman4-proposed.htm>

EPA also anticipates releasing its draft proposal for CPG V in late April or early May. It includes organic fertilizers and manure compost.

Energy Efficiency and Standby Power Proposed Changes to Federal and Defense Acquisition Regulations

Changes to both the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and the Defense Acquisition Regulations (DAR) regarding standby power devices will soon be published in the Federal Register. First published last October, comments have been resolved and final issuance is expected within a month. The changes are to Section 23.203 and state "if life-cycle cost effective and available, when acquiring energy-using products, agencies shall purchase ENERGY STAR® or other energy-efficient items listed on the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Product Energy Efficiency Recommendations product list." The draft goes on to say that "for products that consume power in a standby mode and are listed on FEMP's Standby Power Devices product listing, agencies shall purchase items which meet FEMP's standby power wattage recommendation or document the reason for not purchasing such items."

This language requires DoD to purchase FEMP and ENERGY STAR® designated products, or show cause why not. Similar language was used to describe agency obligations for CPG items, which led DLA and GSA to adopt mandatory substitution policy for these items. In this case, customers that ordered paper that contained no recycled content were automatically sent paper with recycled content. Customers that ordered newly produced motor oil were automatically sent re-refined motor oil. DLA

may wish to have its General Counsel review the proposed language to determine whether this constitutes a requirement for DLA to implement automatic product substitution, similar to CPG items. For reference, the language amends 48 CFR Part 23 (FAR Case 2001-028) and was initially published in the Federal Register at 67 FR 64010 on October 16, 2002.

The draft language also contains provisions that may be of interest to DSCP's MRO Services Program. The proposed FAR

amendment states that when contracting for services that will include the provision of energy-using products, including contracts for design, build, construction, renovation, or maintenance ... the specifications shall incorporate (the same requirements stated above regarding procurement of energy efficient and standby power devices). DSCP may wish to consult General Counsel to determine whether this will require a change in MRO Service contract language.

Energy Efficiency - Commercial Cooking Product Recommendations

FEMP issued 5 product recommendations for commercial cooking equipment last year. First mentioned in last July's newsletter, more detail is provided here because of recent interest. The 5 recommendations are:

- How to Buy Energy Efficient Commercial Refrigerators and Freezers (also Energy Star)
- How to Buy Energy Efficient Gas Griddles
- How to Buy Energy Efficient Gas Fryers
- How to Buy Energy Efficient Pressureless Steamers
- How to Buy Energy Efficient Hot Food Holding Cabinets

While these represent FEMP's first effort to address the category of commercial cooking equipment, FEMP is currently working on additional new products for commercial food service designers and operators. Details will be reported here as they become available. You can find these documents at: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/> under the drop-down headings "Energy Efficient Recommendations" then "Commercial Appliances."

DSCP's Food Service Equipment Program supplies military dining halls and includes virtually all the equipment covered by FEMP's efficiency recommendations. There are also many types of commercial equipment DLA carries for which FEMP has no efficiency recommendation. DSCP may wish to contact the Federal Energy Management Program to make sure DLA is listed on its website as a supplier, where appropriate. DSCP may also wish to let FEMP know which equipment items it sells the most so FEMP can develop efficiency recommendations for those products. The best way to contact FEMP is through their website.

In addition to these product recommendations, FEMP is working on fume hood designs that use significantly less energy, and on rinse nozzles for dishwashing lines that use approximately a tenth the hot water of current designs, perform better and produce payback periods of weeks to months. We will bring you details as they become available.

Biobased Products

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) announced in March a comprehensive database of products made from corn. You can search by product category, supplier, or by keyword. The database contains nearly 600 non-food and non-feed products. The number of product categories covered is too numerous to mention here, but includes many of interest to DLA including adhesives, building materials, cleaning products, coatings, deicers, food service products, lubricants, packaging materials, plastics, solvents and water treatment supplies. The database is compiled from publicly-available information sources, but has not been independently tested to confirm manufacturers claims. In addition, it is important to note that while the products listed have been identified by their manufacturer as containing some amount of corn as an ingredient; the amount has not been verified and it is not certain that the products will meet the Biobased Products standards due to be published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in May 2003. Item managers and technical staff are encouraged to visit the database to see look for biobased products at: http://lepton.marz.com/ncga/comm_dev_center/index_PG.asp

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and Biobased Manufacturers Association are hosting a Biobased Products Showcase in Washington, DC on Tuesday, April 22 to celebrate Earth Day. Exhibitors representing companies, organizations, and government agencies will participate. The Showcase will feature information and products relevant to USDA's Biobased Products program. The Showcase will take place in the atrium of the Whitten Building (U.S. Department of Agriculture) located at 12th Street & Jefferson Drive, S.W.. You must enter from the Mall side of the building. The nearest Metro stop is the Smithsonian Station which is served by the Blue and Orange lines.